Influenza VACCINATION AGED CARE FACILITIES

Please distribute to all doctors and staff in your facility



Key Points

- 1. The preferred minimum interval between influenza vaccine and any COVID-19 vaccine is <u>14 days.</u>
- 2. People in phase 1a (which includes aged care residents and staff), should receive the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it is available to them, and then receive their influenza vaccine (advice from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation- ATAGI)
- 3. Vaccines must be ordered on the online ordering system. Faxed or email vaccine orders are no longer accepted.

Scheduling influenza and COVID-19 vaccines

- All providers must be mindful of the 2021 ATAGI clinical advice when scheduling the influenza vaccination program for staff and residents in aged care.
- Aged care providers should discuss plans for booking vaccination clinics with GPs (for residents) and external vaccination providers (for staff).
- These discussions are important to ensure both vaccines can be safely administered.

Ordering influenza vaccine

- Vaccines must be ordered online. Faxed or e-mail orders are no longer accepted.
- Since 9 am Monday 8 March 2021, facilities have been able to order vaccines online at: nsw.tollhealthcare.com/.
- To register for online ordering, email the Online Ordering Registration Form: www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Documents/online-approval-form.pdf MOH- and requested documents to NSW Health at: vaccreports@health.nsw.gov.au.
- Pneumococcal vaccines can also be ordered where appropriate.
- Only the person assigned with the role of managing a Residential Facility is authorised under Section 10(4)(d) of the Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 1966 to order influenza and pneumococcal vaccines.

All vaccinations must be reported to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)

- Mandatory reporting of all influenza and COVID-19 vaccines will be effective from 1 March 2021. Providers must apply for access to the AIR via PRODA now.
- Further information is available at: www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/organisations/business/services/proda-provider-digital-access

Further Information

- ATAGI Statement on the administration of seasonal influenza vaccines in 2021
- ATAGI Advice on influenza and COVID-19 vaccines
- Australian Government Information for aged care providers, workers and residents about COVID-<u>19 vaccines</u>
- NSW Health Seasonal influenza vaccination 2021

For any enquiries, please call your local public health unit on 1300 066 055.

Regards NSW Health 22 March 2021